The Clarion Call

☆ Official Newsletter of Mass. Dept. Sons of Union Veterans ☆

FALL 1997 P.O. BOX 11, WINCHESTER, MA 01890

National Encampment Utica, New York

IN KEEPING WITH TRADITION, ONCE AGAIN A WILD AND WOOLY NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT WAS CONDUCTED AT UTICA NEW YORK IN AUGUST. WHEN THE SMOKE HAD CLEARED, RICHARD ORR OF PENNSYLVANIA HAD BEEN ELECTED COMMANDER IN CHIEF. IN ENSUING ACTION, ALL CHARGES OF MALFEASANCE WHILE IN THE OFFICE OF COMMANDER OF THE SVR WERE DROPPED AGAINST PAST COMMANDER IN CHIEF CHARLES CORFMAN OF OHIO. IN A SPIRIT OF FRATERNAL RELATIONS, THE MATTER WAS SETTLED WITH A HANDSHAKE. LET US HOPE THAT SUCH FEELINGS WILL CONTINUE IN THE PERPETUATION OF OUR ORDER.

AMONG THOSE PRESENT AT THE ENCAMPMENT WERE: COMMANDER FRANK J. TUCKER, SVC FREDERIC CAULDWELL, TREASURER EDWARD PARKS, SECRETARY LESLIE COVEY,

PDC ALAN PETERSON, COUNCIL MEMBER NORMAN WHEELER AND COMMANDER GERALD HAYES OF CAMP 61.

THERE WILL BE A FUTURE PUBLICATION OF THE NEWLY ALTERED RITUAL FOR THE USAGE OF CAMPS AND DEPARTMENTS.

THE DEPARTMENT OF RHODE ISLAND OFFERED TO HOST THE NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT IN THE YEAR 2000, WHICH WAS ACCEPTED WITHOUT OFFICIAL SANCTION AT THIS TIME.

MASSACHUSETTS CAN ONCE AGAIN BE PROUD OF ITS PRESIDENT, MARY WILLEY WHO WAS ELECTED A NATIONAL COUNCIL MEMBER OF THE AUXILIARY, ADDING TO HER OTHER RESPONSIBILITIES OF NEW ENGLAND REGIONAL PRESIDENT.

A MOMENT OF SADNESS WAS REALIZED AT THE OFFER OF THE RESIGNATION OF BROTHER CHARLES CORFMAN AS NATIONAL TREASURER, DUE TO HIS HEALTH PROBLEMS. HE WAS REPLACED BY NATIONAL COUNSELOR PAHLM WHO IS ALSO HOLDING THE COUNSELOR POSITION.

NOTE: *THE DEPARTMENT OF MASSACHUSETTS REGRETS THE PASSING OF THE BELOVED MOTHER OF PAST COMMANDER ROGER OLSEN.*

WE ASK THAT YOU KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS, HOPES FOR IMPROVEMENT IN THE HEALTH OF OUR TWO PAST COMMANDERS IN CHIEF, CLARKIE MELLOR AND EUGENE RUSSELL. WE MIGHT ALSO ASK YOU TO REMEMBER PAST PRESIDENTS JENNIE RUSSELL AND LOUAINE HOOPER AND PRAY FOR THEIR WELL BEING.

Rockland Ma., Sept. 6, Reception for the Department Officers and Auxiliary. Chief-of-Staff Gardner Butman escorts Dept. Commander Frank Tucker and Aux. Pres. Mary Willey.

Department Order No. 8 Series 1997-1998

ALL CAMP COMMANDERS ARE REMINDED, THAT UNDER ARTICLE VIII, SEC. V OF THE BY-LAWS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF MASSACHUSETTS, THAT CAMP ELECTIONS SHALL BE HELD DURING THE MONTHS OF OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER,

THE COMMANDER-ELECT, SHALL NOTIFY THE DEPARTMENT COMMANDER UPON COMPLETION OF THE ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR THE ENSUING FISCAL YEAR OF THE DATE TIME AND LOCATION OF THE INSTALLATION OF CAMP OFFICERS, AND REQUEST THAT AN INSTALLING OFFICER BE APPOINTED. NO COMMANDER-ELECT MAY CHOOSE HIS INSTALLING OFFICER. THIS IS THE PREROGATIVE OF THE DEPARTMENT COMMANDER. HOWEVER, A CERTAIN QUALIFIED INDIVIDUAL MAY BE REQUESTED BY THE COMMANDER ELECT.

WHERE PLAUSIBLE, THE AUSTRALIAN BALLOT SYSTEM (SECRET BALLOT) SHALL BE USED TO ELECT.

ELECTIONS OF OFFICERS BY CAMPS UNDER OFFICIAL SUSPENSION SHALL NOT BE RECOGNIZED UNTIL SAID SUSPENSION IS LIFTED BY THE DEPARTMENT COMMANDER.

ALL CAMP COMMANDERS SHALL HAVE THEIR LEDGERS AUDITED BY THE CAMP COUNCIL MEMBERS PRIOR TO COMMENCEMENT OF ELECTIONS. THEY SHALL HAVE A PROPER REPORT READIED FOR THE INSTALLING OFFICER, OF COMPLIANCE. ANY CAMP NOT IN COMPLIANCE SHALL NOT BE OFFICIALLY INSTALLED.

ELECTIONS OF OFFICERS SHALL BE COMPLETED WITHIN THE REQUIRED TIME PERIODS OR FACE THE POSSIBILITY OF SUSPENSION. HOWEVER, A REQUEST OF DELAY DUE TO EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES MAY BE TAKEN UNDER ADVISEMENT BY THE DEPART MENT COMMANDER. (IT IS HOPED THAT ALL ELECTIONS SHALL BE COMPLETED BY DECEMBER 1ST.)

ALL CAMP COMMANDERS AND COMMANDERS-ELECT ARE INVITED TO ATTEND UPCOMING COUNCIL AND EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETINGS OF THE DEPARTMENT. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT THE HEADQUARTERS, P.O. BOX 411, MIDDLEBORO, MA 02346.

ALL OFFICERS OF THIS DEPARTMENT, INCLUDING CAMP OFFICERS, SHALL

NEW ENGLAND REGIONAL ASSOC., Passing of the Gavel. Frank Tucker NERA Sec., Greg Mierka R.I. Dept. Comm., NERA P.C. Merlin Doyle of Vt., NERA Comm. Charles Tucker of N.H., Floyd Blodgett VT. Dept. Comm.

CONDUCT OFFICIAL BUSINESS THROUGHOUT THE HEADQUARTERS P.O. BOX IN MIDDLEBORO.

ANY MEMBER OF THIS DEPARTMENT IN GOOD STANDING, WHO IS NOT RECEIVING HIS COPY OF THE BANNER (NATIONAL PERIODICAL) OR *THE CLARION CALL* (DEPT. PERIODICAL) IS URGED TO CONTACT DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS (PLEASE) INFORM HEADQUARTERS IF YOU CHANGE YOUR ADDRESS.)

FRANK J. TUCKER COMMANDER

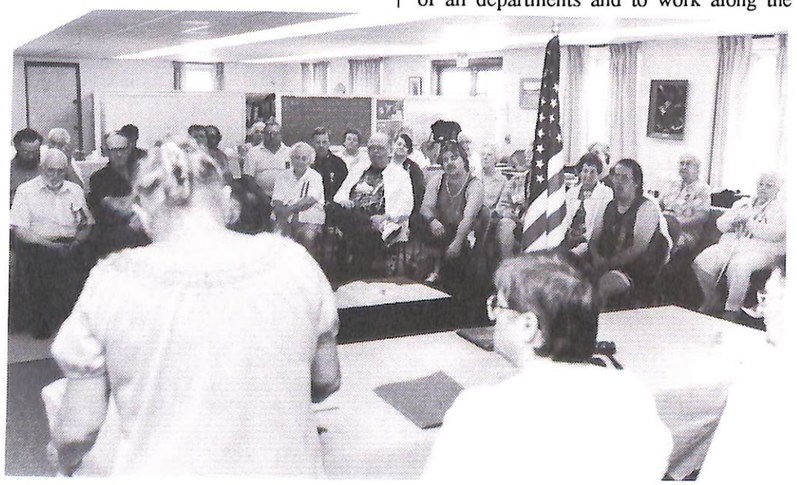
New England SUVCW Delegates Convene

ON JULY 19TH, SUVCW DELEGATES FROM THE SIX NEW ENGLAND STATES CONVENED AT THE WEIRS BEACH, LACONIA, NEW HAMPSHIRE FOR THEIR ANNUAL SUMMER MEETING. AMONG THOSE ELECTED TO OFFICE FROM MASSACHUSETTS WERE: FRANK J. TUCKER NERA SECRETARY, JOSEPH PLANTE NERA TREASURER, RICHARD LUFKIN NERA PUBLICITY DIRECTOR,AND WILLIAM RYERSON NERA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. WE ARE PROUD TO ANNOUNCE THAT MASSACHUSETTS HAD THE LARGEST DELEGATION PRESENT. OUR OWN DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT, MARY WILLEY WAS ELECTED BY HER PEERS AS PRESIDENT OF THE NERA AUXILIARY.

A POINT OF INTEREST TO BE NOTED, IS THAT WE NOW HAVE A FATHER~SON TEAM IN PLACE AT NERA. THE COMMANDER BEING CHARLES E. TUCKER OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, TEAMED UP WITH HIS FATHER (OUR DEPARTMENT COMMANDER) AS NERA SECRETARY.

A SPIRITED DEBATE WAS BROUGHT FORTH IN PURSUING AN AMENDMENT TO THE NERA BY-LAWS CALLING FOR A DUES ASSESSMENT TO EACH DEPARTMENT OF $20.00, FILED BY MASSACHUSETTS, WHICH WAS EVENTUALLY PASSED. FOR THOSE OF OUR MEMBERSHIP NOT ACQUAINTED WITH THE NERA, THE ORGANIZATION WAS STARTED IN 1935 AT THE WEIRS BY THE SUVCW FOR THE PROMOTIONS OF IDEAS TO IMPROVE OUR ORDER AND TO BE INTERRELATED WITH EACH OTHER IN THE SIX NEW ENGLAND STATES ON A SOCIAL BASIS. OUR OWN PCC CLARK MELLOR WAS ONE OF THE ORIGINAL MEMBERS. THE ORGANIZATION MEETS FOUR TIMES ANNUALLY AND THE MEETINGS ARE HOSTED BY VARIOUS STATES IN ROTATION.

THE OCTOBER MEETING WAS HOSTED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF VERMONT. ANY SON, WHO ATTENDS AND FILES THE REGISTRATION FEE OF $2.00 IS ENTITLED TO HAVE A VOICE AND VOTE. IN ORDER TO BE ELECTED NERA, COMMANDER ONE MUST HAVE SERVED AS A DEPARTMENT COMMANDER. THE ORGANIZATION FOR MANY YEARS HAS GIVEN A DONATION TO THE COMMANDER'S FAVORITE CHARITY WITHIN HIS STATE. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED, YOU MAY BE NOTIFIED OF THE NEXT MEETING BY MAKING YOUR WISHES KNOWN TO COMMANDER FRANK TUCKER, WHO IS REGIONAL SECRETARY. DON'T MISS THIS ENLIGHTENING EXPERIENCE.



JOINT MEETING of NERA and Women's Aux. at the Weirs July 19.

What Is The New England Regional Association?

Many of our newer Brothers are evidently not well acquainted with the significance of the New England Regional Association. This organization actually was started by the G.A.R. in New Hampshire, when a one man committee from each Camp was formed to keep in touch with each other to avoid conflicts in date that had already been chosen for state meetings and encampments.

When the last veteran passed away, the Sons formed the New England Regional Association to more or less do the same job. Some states kept the committee open until all of the Veterans in New England had passed away. Maine held that committee for a number of years and had an office in the State House long after all Maine veterans had passed away Past Commander in Chief of the Sons, one Frank L. Kirchgassner from Massachusetts presided over a regular meeting of Representatives from the New England Departments of the SUVCW, called to order in the Arsenal on Benefit Street in Providence R.I. When asked the purpose of the organizing, it was stated: "To create interest and co-operation between the New England Departments for the benefit of all departments and to work along the lines of the National Program and Policy Committee". The By-Laws were present on November 29 1935 as follows: NAME: This Organization shall be known as the New England Regional Association of the Sons of Union Veterans of The Civil War.

PURPOSE: To Carry on the work set forth in the C & R in a manner that shall be a benefit to our organization, PARTICULARLY FOR THE INTEREST OF THE DEPARTMENTS OF NEW ENGLAND. (This is contrary to the misconception that we gather for reunions and good times.)

MEMBERSHIP The membership of this organization shall be all PDC, all present or sitting Department Officers, and all brothers who have attended any one meeting to be classified as members of the permanent organization. Meetings of the NERA have been held in various states and have been held in the Senate and House of Representatives in the State House in Augusta Maine, also aboard the U.S.S. Ticonderoga in Burlington VT.

The meetings have held various discussions over concerns and events in different Departments, and articles of concern have been taken to National,. Today, some 62 years later, we are faced with many trying situation especially at the National level which on a trickle down theory affect the New England Departments. It is very noticeable, for instance that few to none are chosen for National appointments, that the elective power has been shifted away from New England, and thus interest in membership wanes dangerously. As one American patriot once observed:

We must all hang together or we shall hang separately" Please make a point of becoming active in the NERA. Together we have power to be reckoned with.

NERA MEETING, July 19, Commander Charles Tucker talks with Doug Knight, Camp Comm. of William Tabor Camp # 162, Methuen.

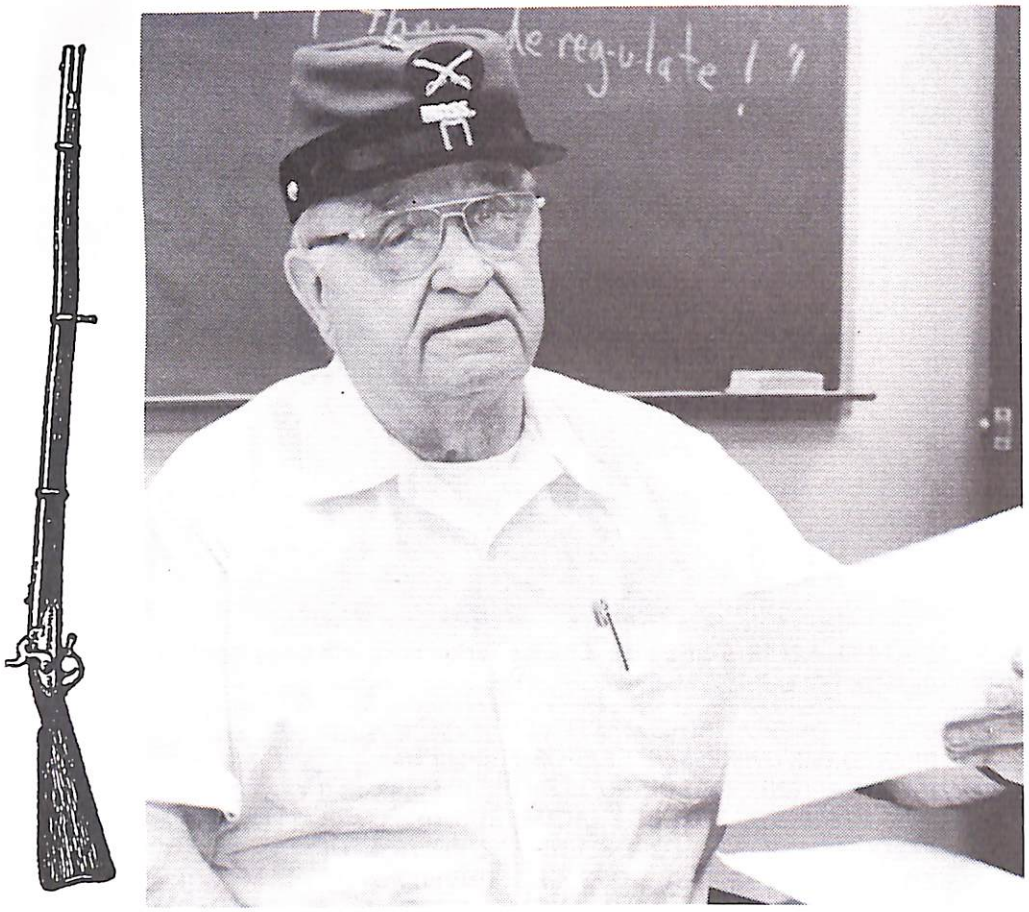
Col. Robert Gold Shaw Memorial Unveiled

SUNDAY, JULY 13TH MARKED THE UNVEILING OF A BRONZE CASTING OF THE ORIGINAL COL. ROBERT GOULD SHAW MEMORIAL ACROSS FROM THE STATE HOUSE IN BOSTON TAKEN FROM THE ORIGINAL PLASTER CASTING. CEREMONIES WERE CONDUCTED AT CORNISH NEW HAMPSHIRE ON THE BANKS OF THE CONNECTICUT RIVER, NOT ONLY HONORING COL. SHAW, BUT THE TROOPS OF HIS MASSACHUSETT'S 54TH COLORED REGIMENT, WHO GAVE THEIR ALL IN THE ASSAULT ON FORT WAGNER SOUTH CAROLINA IN 1863. THE UNVEILING WAS COUPLED WITH A TRIBUTE TO AUGUSTUS ST. GAUDENS, THE LATE SCULPTOR WHO DESIGNED THE MEMORIAL, AND UPON WHOSE ESTATE THE CEREMONIES TOOK PLACE. OVER A THOUSAND PERSONS BRAVED THE OPPRESSIVE HEAT OF THE DAY TO ATTEND, INCLUDING ELEMENTS OF THE MASS. 54TH RE-ENACTMENT TROOPS AND A BODY OF UNIFORMED MEMBERS OF THE SONS OF UNION VETERANS, LED BY DEPT. SVC FRED CAULDWELL AND THE DEPT. COLOR GUARD COMPOSED OF MEMBERS OF THE UXBRIDGE CAMP, WHO STOOD AT PARADE REST IN THE SWELTERING HEAT FOR SOME TWO HOURS DURING THE SPEAKING PRESENTATIONS.

AMONG THOSE SERVING WERE IN ADDITION TO THE SVC.,HISTORIAN RICHARD LUFKIN AND ASST GRAVES OFFICER PETER ROTANDO. AMONG THE INVITED GUESTS OF HONOR WAS DEPARTMENT COMMANDER FRANK J. TUCKER. AFTER MANY LENGTHY SPEECHES, EXTOLLING THE SERVICE OF THE MASS. 54th, COLONEL SHAW AND ST. GAUDENS, THE ATTENDEES REPAIRED TO A SECTION OF THE ESTATE FOR THE UNVEILING OF THE MEMORIAL.

IT IS TO BE NOTED, THAT THE SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR WERE CHOSEN WITH THE 54TH TO LEAD THE ENTOURAGE TO THE SITE, BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE ST GAUDENS MUSEUM. FOLLOWING THE UNVEILING COMMANDER TUCKER CALLED THE AUDIENCE TO REMAIN FOR A SPECIAL AWARD TO BROTHER DICK MASSEY, WHOSE ANCESTOR CARRIED THE DAY AS DRUMMER BOY AT THE ASSAULT ON FT. WAGNER. AFTER AN INTRODUCTORY SPEECH, COMMANDER TUCKER PRESENTED A

ROCKLAND, Sept. 6, As the Officers Reception came to a close SUVCW and Aux. members and guests gathered in the traditional circle to sing "' til we meet again"



NOW HEAR THIS....Dept. Commander Frank Tucker conducts the July 12th meeting at Westborough.

SPECIAL PLAQUE DRAWN UP BY THE DEPT. OF MASS. S W CW TO BROTHER MASSEY, WHO WAS BOTH SURPRISED AND THRILLED, TO THE PLAUDITS OF THE HUNDREDS ATTENDING THE AFFAIR.

THIS AWARD HAD SPECIAL SIGNIFICANCE, IN THAT, AS TUCKER NOTED, MASSEY WAS OVERLOOKED IN INVITATIONS TO THE MAY SERVICES AT THE ORIGINAL MEMORIAL IN BOSTON.

WE WOULD CERTAINLY REMISS IF WE NEGLECTED TO NOTE THE CONTRIBUTION OF KAREN CAULDWELL, THE WIFE OF OUR SVC, WHO PROVIDED AN OASIS OF COOLING DRINKS FOR THE SWELTERING FORCES OF THE S W CW GROUP. WE MIGHT NOTE THE PLEASURE SHE TAKES IN PROVIDING COLLATIONTO THE COUNCIL AND EXECUTIVE BOARD AT THEIR MEETINGS.

WE ARE PROUD TO BOAST OF THE SPECIAL RECOGNITION OFFERED TO THE SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR FOR THEIR PARTICIPATION, BY THE ST. GAUDENS COMMITTEE. THESE ARE THE TYPES OF PARTICIPATORY ACTIVITIES THAT SFTT OUR ORGANIZATION. INCIDENTALLY, SVC CAULDWELL MANAGED TO SIGN UP A RECRUIT AT THE AFFAIR FROM THE STATE OF VERMONT.

The Clarion Call address is:
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Dept. of Mass SUVCW Participates

Hemenway Dedication

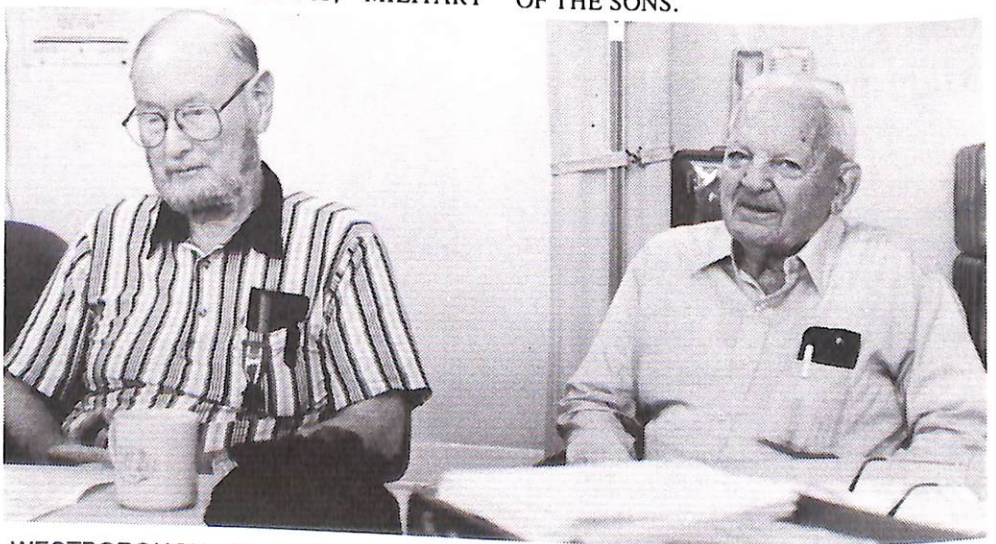
ON SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13TH, THE DEPARTMENT OF MASS. SUVCW, LED BY THE DEPARTMENT COMMANDER, PARTICIPATED IN A SHORT PARADE AND DEDICATORY SERVICE HONORING JEFFREY HEMENWAY, A REVOLUTIONARY WAR PATRIOT AND THE ANCESTOR OF RICHARD MASSEY, A MEMBER OF THE UXBRIDGE CAMP. THE INVITATION HAVING BEEN EXTENDED FROM MR. RICHARD TRENT SEAMS, MILITARY ARCHIVIST OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, AND RELAYED FROM CAMP COMMANDER AND DEPARTMENT SVC FREDERIC CAULDFIELD TO COMMANDER TUCKER. MEMBERS OF THE SUVCW HONOR GUARD FORMED UP AT A DESIGNATED AREA OF THE HOPE CEMETERY IN WORCESTER AND MARCHED TO THE MEMORIAL SITE.

ALSO INVOLVED IN THE CEREMONIES WERE UNITS OF THE NAVAL ROTC OF HOLY CROSS COLLEGE IN WORCESTER, THE WORCESTER FIREMAN FIFE AND DRUM CORPS AND THE JR. ROTC OF THE LOCAL HIGH SCHOOL.

ALSO LEADING THE MARCH WERE MOUNTED UNITS OF THE MASS. NATIONAL GUARD AND REPRESENTATIVES OF THE 10TH MASS. BATTERY, A CIVIL WAR RE ENACTMENT GROUP. IT IS TO BE PROUDLY NOTED THAT THE HONOR GUARD OF THE SUVCW COMPRISED THE LARGEST UNIT OF THE PARADE PROUDLY DISPLAYING OUR NEW DEPARTMENT AND NATIONAL COLORS. ACTING AS FLAG BEARER AND COMMAND NCO WAS BROTHER ROBERT KNIGHT OF CAMP 15 IN SPRINGFIELD, ALSO ONE OF THE THREE DEPARTMENT COUNCIL MEMBERS. SVC FRED CAULDWELL ACTED IN THE CAPACITY OF A COLOR GUARD.

MANY CONGRATULATORY REMARKS WERE MADE ABOUT THE SUVCW PRESENCE, AND MUCH OF THE PHOTOGRAPHY WAS DIRECTED AT THE UNIT. BROTHER BEN EMERICK SUPPLIED MARCHING FLUTE MUSIC ON A GENUINE CIVIL WAR FIFE, ACCOMPANIED BY HIS GRANDSON WHO ACTED AS DRUMMER BOY. BEN IS ALSO A MEMBER OF THE DEPARTMENT EXECUTIVE BOARD.

COLONEL THOMAS MAYHEW SMITH OF THE GEN. KNOX ARTILLERY COMPANY OF THE S.A.R WAS ASSISTED IN REVOLUTIONARY UNIFORM BY BROTHER THOMAS SMITH, AN EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER AND COMMANDER OF CAMP 9 OF THE SONS.



WESTBOROUGH, Dept. Council Chairman Norman Wheeler and Exec. Committee Member Irving Seigfriedt at July Meeting.